AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method for generating a multi-dimensional data structure in order to access data associated with a plurality of data sources, said plurality of data sources having a different number of dimensions than said multi-dimensional data structure, said method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

defining at least one dimension[[,]] and a dimension value associated with the at

least one dimension, ~~an attribute and an attribute value~~ for said multi-

dimensional data structure;

creating a plurality of combinations of dimension values,

wherein [[each]] a combination defines a data item, and

wherein said multi-dimensional data structure is defined by a first set of

data items and each of the plurality of data sources is defined by a

second set of data items;

mapping data items in the first set of data items in said multi-dimensional data

structure to corresponding data items in the second set of data items in

each data source; [[and]]

determining a location of [[the]] a gap, ~~the gap~~ comprising a difference between

[[said]] the first set of data items and [[a]] the second set of data items;

bridging the gap by at least one of the following:

obtaining, from one of the data sources, a further data item not originally

obtainable in the second set of data items;

<u>modifying the multi-dimensional data structure to be further defined by the</u>

<u>second set of data items; and</u>

<u>converting a source data structure in at least one of the data sources into</u>

<u>another data structure</u>.

2.   (Canceled)

3.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim <u>1</u> [[2]], wherein said gap is bridged at said plurality of data sources.

4.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, <u>further comprising defining an</u> <u>attribute and an attribute value associated with the attribute for said multi-dimensional</u> <u>data structure,</u> wherein [[said]] <u>the</u> attribute is assigned to a single dimension.

5.   (Canceled)

6.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said ~~step of~~ creating <u>the</u> combinations includes ~~the step of~~ linking two or more dimensions for said combination created.

7.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 6, wherein said ~~step of~~ mapping includes ~~the step of~~ mapping [[a]] <u>the</u> combination ~~for a dimension value~~ to a <u>data</u> ~~source~~ structure <u>for one of the data sources</u>.

8.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~

creating a mapping file for historic data conversion.

9.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~

generating a report, wherein said report is a combination <u>report</u>, a hierarchy <u>report,</u> or a

mapping report.

10.   (Currently Amended) A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly

embodying a program of instructions executable by a machine, said instructions for

generating a new multi-dimensional chart of accounts that is used to access data

associated with a plurality of <u>source</u> charts of accounts, wherein said plurality of <u>source</u>

charts of accounts has a different number of dimensions than said new multi-

dimensional chart of accounts, the program storage device executing the <u>method</u>

<u>comprising</u> ~~steps of~~:

defining at least one dimension <u>and</u>[[,]] a dimension value <u>associated with the at</u>

<u>least one dimension</u>~~, an attribute and an attribute value~~ for said new multi-

dimensional chart of accounts;

creating a plurality of combinations <u>of dimension values</u>, wherein each <u>of the</u>

<u>combinations</u> ~~combination~~ defines a data item,

[[and]] wherein said <u>new</u> multi-dimensional <u>chart of accounts</u> ~~data~~

~~structure~~ is defined by a first set of data items<u>,</u> and

wherein each of said plurality of source charts of accounts data sources is

defined by a second set of data items;

mapping data items in the first set of data items in said new multidimensional

chart of accounts to corresponding data items in the second set of data

items in each source chart of accounts; and

determining a location of a gap comprising a difference between said first set of

data items and a second set of data items;

bridging the gap by at least one of the following:

obtaining, from one of the source charts of accounts, a further data item

not originally obtainable in the second set of data items;

modifying the new multi-dimensional chart of accounts to be further

defined by the second set of data items; and

converting a source data structure in at least one of the source charts of

accounts into another data structure.

11.   (Canceled)

12.   (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 10 [[11]], wherein said

gap is bridged at said plurality of source charts of accounts.

13.   (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 10, wherein the

method further comprises defining an attribute and an attribute value associated with

the attribute for said multi-dimensional chart of accounts, wherein the attribute is

assigned to a single dimension.

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 10 [[14]], wherein said

dimension is at least one of a dimension for a product, an industry classification and a

maturity.

16.   (Original) The program storage device of claim 15, wherein said dimension value

associated with said product dimension is one of corporate loans, mortgages, home

credits and personal loans.

17.   (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 10, wherein said step-

of method further comprises creating the combinations includes linking two or more

dimensions for [[each]] a created combination created.

18.   (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 17, wherein said step-

of method further comprises mapping includes mapping [[each]] a combination for a

dimension value to said plurality of source charts of accounts.

19.   (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 10, wherein the

method further comprising the step of comprises creating a mapping file for historic data

conversion.

20.   (Currently Amended) The program storage device of claim 10, wherein the

method further comprising the step of comprises generating a report, wherein said

report is a combination report, a hierarchy report, or a mapping report.

21.   (Currently Amended) A tool for generating a multi-dimensional data structure for

integrating data from a plurality of data sources, said plurality of data sources having a

different number of dimensions than said multi-dimensional data structure, said tool

comprising:

  a relational database;

  a processor;

  a data structure generator, wherein said data structure generator defines at least

    one dimension[[,]] and a dimension value associated with the at least one

    dimension, an attribute and an attribute value;

  a combination module for creating and retrieving a plurality of combinations of

    dimension values,

    wherein a combination defines a data item, and

    wherein said multi-dimensional data structure is defined by a first set of

      data items and said plurality of data sources is defined by a second

      set of data items;

a mapping module for mapping data items in the first set of data items in the

multi-dimensional data structure to corresponding data items in the

second set of data items in said plurality of data sources; [[and]]

a gap detector for detecting a gap comprising a difference between [[said]] the

first set of data items and [[said]] the second set of data items; and

a gap resolver for facilitating bridging of the gap by at least one of the following:

obtaining, from one of the data sources, a further data item not originally

obtainable in the second set of data items;

modifying the multi-dimensional data structure to be further defined by the

second set of data items; and

converting a source data structure in at least one of the data sources into

another data structure.

22.   (Original) The tool of claim 21, wherein said tool is in communication with said

plurality of data sources via an electronic network.

23.   (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 21, wherein said gaps are bridged at

said plurality of data sources.

24.   (Currently Amended) The tool of claim 21, wherein said combination module

creates [[a]] the combination by linking two or more dimensions.

25.   (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 21, further comprising a mapping file module for creating a mapping file used for historic data conversion.

26.   (Currently Amended) The tool of claim 21 [[1]], further comprising a report generator for generating a report, wherein said report is a combination report, a hierarchy report, or a mapping report.

27.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 [[2]], further comprising documenting how the gap was bridged.

28.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein the multi-dimensional data structure comprises a centralized database.

29.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 28, wherein the centralized database is located at a central office.

30.   (Currently Amended) A program storage device according to claim 10 [[11]], wherein the method further comprising comprises documenting how the gap was bridged.

31.   (Currently Amended) A program storage device according to claim 10 [[11]], wherein the multidimensional chart of accounts data structure comprises a centralized database.

32.   (Previously Presented) A program storage device according to claim 31, wherein the centralized database is located at a central office.

33.   (Canceled)

34.   (Currently Amended) A tool according to claim 21 [[33]], wherein the gap detector and resolver document how gaps are bridged.

35.   (Previously Presented) A tool according to claim 21, wherein the multi-dimensional data structure comprises a centralized database.

36.   (Previously Presented) A tool according to claim 35, wherein the centralized database is located at a central office.

37.   (Canceled)

38.   (Canceled)

39.   (Canceled)

40.   (New) A method according to claim 1, wherein the another data structure comprises the multi-dimensional data structure.

41.　(New)　A program storage device according to claim 10, wherein the another

data structure comprises the multi-dimensional chart of accounts.

42.　(New)　A tool according to claim 21, wherein the another data structure

comprises the multi-dimensional data structure.